2/29/67

Re: Arnold Louis Kessler

I have just read Bruce's memo. Based upon it I think it might be worthwhile graphy, you'll see that this is one of a series of files that are bracketed in the list. The first originates at State, the remainder FBI. The only one withheld is 959. Because it is a letterhead memo, and there is no sign of any attachment, it is a fair presumption that the FBI filtered the raw material, withheld that from the Commission, and prepared a summary to its liking (and I am inferring it may have found things in the reports upon which it is based that it preferred not to be known to the Commission). The numbers, 957-61. 960 is Ex 2457. This is one of a series dealing with the Mexico trip.

Re: Arnold Louis Kessler

I have just read Bruce's memo. Based upon it I think it might be worthwhile to interview him again, if someone has the time. It would also be good if it were possible to get a rundown on him in advance. Clearly, whether or not he was truthful, Bruce believed his wife was apprehensive about something. If you check Paul's bibliography, you'll see that this is one of a series of files that are bracketed in the list. The first originates at State, the remainder FBI. The only one withheld is 959. Because it is a letterhead memo, and there is no sign of any attachment, it is a fair presumption that the FBI filtered the raw material, withheld that from the Commission, and prepared a summary to its liking (and I am inferring it may have found things in the reports upon which it is based that it preferred not to be known to the Commission). The numbers, 957-61. 960 is Ex 2457. This is one of a series dealing with the Mexico trip.

It might also be a good idea to speak to your friend again. It would not hurt to show a series of pictures, including those of Thornley that might be available, with no names. On Thornley, if it is possible, it would be a good idea to print the picture backward, that is, make his hair seem to recede over the opposite temple, which will give him a hairline like Oswald's.

I think I sent you a copy of the Chapman report of 12.20.63, quoting the customs as saying Oswald's brother crossed the border the same day as Oswald (with some confusion about who was going which way), O at Laredo, brother at Miguel Aleman. I wonder if this fits. The report is very evasive, even for the FBI. Evasive enough to inspire interest.

It appears that Thornley cannot account for the time Oswald was in Mexico.